I feele this pin pricke, would I were aſſur'd of my condition.

Cord. O looke vpon me ſir, and hold your hands in benediction o're me, no ſir you muſt not kneele.

Lear. Pray doe not mocke,
I am a very fooliſh fond old man,
Foureſcore and vpward, and to deale plainly
I feare I am not in my perfect mind,
Mee thinks I ſhould know you, and know this man;
Yet I am doubtfull, for I am mainly ignorant
What place this is, and all the skill I haue
Remembers not theſe garments, nor I know not
Where I did lodge laſt night, doe not laugh at me,
For as I am a man, I thinke this Ladie
To be my child *Cordelia*. *Cord.* And ſo I am.

Lear. Be your teares wet, yes faith, I pray weep not,
If you haue poyſon for mee I will drinke it,
I know you doe not loue me, for your ſiſters
Haue as I doe remember, done me wrong,
You haue ſome cauſe, they haue not.

Cord. No cauſe, no cauſe. *Lear.* Am I in *France*?

Kent. In your owne kingdome ſir.

Lear. Doe not abuſe me?

Doct. Be comforted good Madame, the great rage you ſee is cured in him, and yet it is danger to make him euen ore the time hee has loſt, deſire him to goe in, trouble him no more till further ſetling.

Cord. Wilt pleaſe your highnes walke?

Lear. You muſt beare with me, pray now forget and forgiue, I am old and fooliſh. *Exeunt. Manet Kent and Gent.*

Gent. Holds it true ſir that the Duke of *Cornwall* was ſo ſlaine?

Kent. Moſt certaine ſir.

Gent. Who is conductor of his people?

Kent. As tis ſaid, the baſtard ſonne of *Gloſter*.

Gent. They ſay *Edgar* his baniſht ſonne is with the Earle of *Kent* in *Germanie*.

Kent. Report is changeable, tis time to looke about,
The powers of the kingdome approach apace.

Gent. The arbiterment is like to be bloudie, fare you well ſir.

Kent. My poynt and period will be throughly wrought,

Or

Or well, or ill, as this dayes batte

Enter Edmund, Rega

Baſt. Know of the Duke if hi
Or whether ſince he is aduis'd by
To change the courſe, he's full of
And ſelfe reprouing, bring his co

Reg. Our ſiſters man is certainl

Baſt. Tis to be doubted Mada

Reg. Now ſweet Lord,
You know the goodnes I intend
Tell me but truly, but then ſpeak
Doe you not loue my ſiſter?

Reg. But haue you neuer foun
To the forfended place?

Reg. I am doubtfull that you
ſom'd with hir, as far as we call hi

Baſt. No by mine honour Mad

Reg. I neuer ſhall indure hir, d

Baſt. Feare me not, ſhee and th

Enter Albany and G

Gono. I had rather looſe the ba
looſen him nd mee.

Alb. Our very louing ſiſter we
For this I heare the King is come
With others, whome the rigour o
Forſt to crie out, where I could no
I neuer yet was valiant, for this bu
It touches vs, as *France* inuades ou
Not bolds the King, with others
Moſt iuſt and heauy cauſes make

Baſt. Sir you ſpeake nobly.

Gono. Combine togither gainſt
For theſe domeſtique dore particu
Are not to queſtion here.

Alb. Let vs then determine wit
proceedings.

Baſt. I ſhall atte

Reg. Siſter you'l goe with vs?

Reg. Tis moſt conuenient, pray

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *King Lear* (STC 22292) LONDON, 1608 THE BRITISH LIBRARY (C.34.k.18)